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Sent: 3/1/2012 2:29:15 PM

To: Kadry, Abdel-Razak [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group]

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Subject:

NEWS UPDATES: Poll results: MLive readers say dioxins more dangerous than EPA dioxin report claims (The Saginaw News)

## Poll results: MLive readers say dioxins more dangerous than EPA dioxin report claims

Published: Monday, February 27, 2012, 1:00 PM Updated: Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 8:40 AM http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2012/02/poll\_results\_mlive\_readers\_say\_2.html

MLive readers say in a <u>poll</u> the Environmental Protection Agency dioxin assessment does not treat the chemical as the dangerous substance it is.

The EPA released the report more than a week ago; The assessment stated current national background levels of dioxins will not cause significant health problems. In high enough levels the manufacturing byproduct can <u>cause health problems in children and adults</u>.

In a poll, 58 percent of responders voted "The report does not treat dioxins as the harmful chemical they are." A further 16.4 percent of voters believe the report is useful and will aid in cleanup of sites such as the Saginaw and Tittabawassee rivers site, and 14 percent say the report comes too late to make a difference.

One voter supplied the answer, "Nothing but a bunch of politics," while another wrote, "Forget it and move on."

Many commenters say the EPA and Dow Chemical Co, which caused some of the dioxin contamination in Midland and Saginaw counties, do not do enough to correct the pollution.

One commenter acknowledged the complexity of the issue.

## hibelingent wrote:

A 344 page report is not one that is easily read, understood, or absorbed.....much like the more lengthy 1994 Dioxin Reassessment Draft, this document presents much factual evidence as reviewed by people who spend their lives in such pursuits...Arnold Schechter MD, from the University of Texas one of the editors of DIOXINS and HEALTH, and Linda Birnbaum PhD from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences are just two of them.....The complicated science behind dioxins has been a 35 year discovery still evolving as researchers from around the world continue their work....our own MSU center for Integrative Toxicology under the direction of Norbert Kaminski (a member of the National Academy of Science team who reviewed the 1994 Dioxin draft which review led the EPA to do this clarification report) is involved with critical research to help us understand how and at what levels dioxins become metabolically active. Many questions still remain but it is true that dioxins CAN and DO interact within human metabolic pathways that can lead to a number of health consequences...It is also true that many people who have been exposed to dioxins have not been affected by that exposure in any recognizable way, this statement neither takes away from the toxicity of dioxin nor provides reassurance ....and the EPA report is simply stated ...a report by an agency whose role was established in 1970 by the US Congress and was further solidiified in 1980 and 1986 with CERCLA and SARA...acts which focused on toxic industrial sites .....

What do you think? Join the conversation.

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